

III. Remarks

Claims 1-7 were pending in the subject application. By this Amendment, Applicants have canceled claim 6; and amended claims 1, 4, 5, and 7. Accordingly claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 7 are pending in the instant application. The change to the claims do not constitute the addition of new matter and full support for the changes may be found throughout the specification and claims as originally filed.

Claim Objections

On Page 2 of the August 6, 2008 Office Action, the Examiner stated: Claims 1 and 4 are objected to because of the following informalities:

“centre” should be changed to --center-- (claim 1, line 5)

“second set” should be change to --second group-- (claim 4, lines 4-5)

“first set” should be change to --first group-- (claim 4, line 6).

Appropriate correction is required.

In response, claims 1 and 4 have been amended accordingly.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

On Page 2 of the August 6, 2008 Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), as allegedly anticipated by Takahara, U.S. Publication No. 2002/0140211. The Examiner stated Takahara discloses an airbag (for example, including inflatable curtain #11) comprising:

- Inflatable region (for example, including #11 b, 11 c, 11 d).
- Upper edge (for example, edge along top of airbag that includes mounting tabs).
- Mounting tabs (for example, including #11g).

- Axes (see marked-up version of figure 2 below) inclined inwardly toward a region above the center of the airbag (though drawings are not necessarily drawn to scale, incline angle is between 30° and 80°).
- First group of tabs (for example, including one tab #11 g on either side of gas inlet #11 a) positioned near the center (see marked up version of figure 2 below).
- Second group of tabs (for example, including remaining two tabs #11 g located further from gas inlet #11 a) positioned outwardly from the center and the first group of tabs and inclined with a more acute angle than the first group of tabs (see marked-up version of figure 2 below).
- Mounting tabs formed of a woven fabric (for example, including same woven fabric of airbag) having orthogonal warp and weft yarns (extending in longitudinal and vertical directions; including paragraph 0020), the axes making an acute angle with the orthogonal matrix of the warp and weft yarns (for example, since the axes make an acute angle with the longitudinal and vertical directions, then the axes would also make an acute angle with the orthogonal matrix of the warp and weft yarns).
- Axis of each tab defined by a side edge of the tab (see marked up version of figure 2 below).
- Tabs formed from a single layer of material forming the air bag (for example, tabs formed of same material as airbag).

The Examiner further stated that while examples of axes of the mounting tabs have been designated in the marked up version of figure 2 below, various other axes could be pointed out edged of the tabs and would also read on the claims above in a similar manner.

In response, Applicants have canceled claim 6; and amended claims 1, 4, 5, and 7. Applicants submit that the instantly pending claims, as amended are patentable over US 2002/0140211.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the various rejections and objections to the claims.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present form of the claims are patentably distinguishable over the art of record and that this application is now in condition for allowance. Such action is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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